

THE CITY OF GREENVILLE TREE ORDINANCE

The following is a brief overview of the City of Greenville Tree Ordinance. Details of the ordinance are available and should be referred to prior to submitting for Building and Occupancy permits, which will only be granted if application has the following minimum requirements.

1. The City of Greenville Tree Ordinance applies to all property within the City except single family homes.
2. A site plan is required, with tree inventory, detailing species size and location of existing trees. This plan shall indicate any trees that are desired to be removed.
3. A landscape plan indicating future plantings of trees is required. This plan should also include the total acreage of the property, the tree credits required by the ordinance, the credits that have been earned, and the details of all mathematical calculations.
4. Each site must preserve or plant a minimum of 15 tree credit units per acre. Credits are awarded by saving existing trees or by planting trees (2" cal. Minimum). A chart detailing the values of such trees is attached.
5. No trees in the public property shall be cut, damaged, harmed or pruned without the approval of the City Horticulturist or the Parks and Recreation Administrator.
6. Heritage Trees (20" dia. At 4 ½' above ground) or Historic Trees (30") whether located on public or private property have the following protection:
 - A. Shall not be cut, removed, pushed over, killed, harmed, trimmed, sprayed, or destroyed without approval by the City Horticulturist or Parks and Recreation Administrator.
 - B. The drip line of Historic or Heritage Trees will be protected as specified in the ordinance.
 - C. Permits for destroying Heritage or Historic Trees located on public right-of-way will only be granted by the parks and Recreation Administrator or the City Horticulturist.
7. Those causing destruction of Heritage or Historic Trees shall be responsible for mitigating actions as described in the City Tree Ordinance.

Contact Persons: Dale Westermeier, City Horticulturist - 467-4350

P. B. Ellis, III, Parks & Recreation Administrator - 467-4350

Information from City Ordinance #89-50

TABLE A - TREES SAVED
CONVERSION FROM TREE DIAMETER IN INCHES
TO TREE DENSITY UNITS FOR TREES
REMAINING ON SITE

DIA.	UNITS	DIA.	UNITS	DIA.	UNITS
4"	.75	20"	3.75	36"	6.75
5	.9	21	3.9	37	6.9
6	1.1	22	4.1	38	7.1
7	1.3	23	4.3	39	7.3
8	1.5	24	4.5	40	7.5
9	1.7	25	4.7	41	7.7
10	1.9	26	4.9	42	7.9
11	2.1	27	5.1	43	8
12	2.25	28	5.25	44	8.25
13	2.4	29	5.4	45	8.4
14	2.6	30	5.6	46	8.6
15	2.8	31	5.8	47	8.8
16	3	32	6	48	9
17	3.2	33	6.2	49	9.2
18	3.4	34	6.4	50	9.4
19	3.6	35	6.6		

Information from City Ordinance #89-50

TABLE B - TREES PLANTED
CONVERSION FROM TREE DIAMETER IN INCHES
TO TREE DENSITY UNITS FOR PROPOSED NEW TREES

DIA.	UNITS	DIA.	UNITS
2"	.75	9"	2.25
3	.9	10	2.5
4	1.1	11	2.8
5	1.3	12	3.1
6	1.5	13	3.4
7	1.8	14	3.7

Example:

One acre must be planted after the building footprint is excluded. The developer saves:

4 ea. 10" diameter trees worth 1.9 credits = 7.6 credits

1 ea. 16" diameter tree worth 3 credits = 3.0 credits

The developer plants:

4 ea. 4" diameter trees worth 1.1 credits = 4.4 credits

TOTAL CREDITS.....15.0

The site has nine (9) trees on the acre after the development is complete.

Information from City Ordinance #89-50

TABLE C
UNACCEPTABLE SPECIES

SPECIES	REASON
Mimosa	Invasive, weak wood
Ailanthus	Invasive, weak wood, littersome
Box Elder	Weak wood
Silver Maple	Weak wood
Chinaberry	Weak wood, littersome
Morus Spp.	Weak wood, littersome, invasive
Black Locusts	Weak wood, pests
Poplar Spp.	Weak wood, pests
Female Ginkgo	Littersome, smelly fruit pods
Siberian Elm	Weak wood

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall become effective two weeks from date of passage and be designated as Ordinance No. 89-50 ORDAINED THIS 20TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1989

Signed by: W. D. Workman, III Mayor
Cheryle Cofie, City Clerk
John Dullea, City Manager
Steven A. Kern, City Attorney